



Milwaukee County

Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Fourth District

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For Immediate Release
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MILWAUKEE COUNTY'S "GREEN PRINT" UNVEILED

Dimitrijevic proposes higher environmental and conservation standards

Milwaukee, WI – Milwaukee County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, who represents Milwaukee's near Southside and Bay View neighborhoods, has announced an environmental and conservation initiative for Milwaukee County.

"Higher energy costs have put a major strain on departmental budgets within the County, which owns more than 800 buildings. Many of them have not been updated in decades," Dimitrijevic said. "Modernizing the way we operate will pay dividends to our community over the long-term. Operating more efficiently will help preserve resources for future generations."

Supervisor Dimitrijevic's plan addresses these concerns on many fronts, including:

- Create a Director of Sustainability position to oversee current and future energy efficiency and eco-friendly initiatives and help County departments comply with the Green Print.
- Retrofit County buildings with high-performance, energy efficient technology.
- Require all departments to perform an internal audit of ways to improve energy efficiency.
- Direct the Public Works Director to purchase hybrid and alternative fuel powered vehicles.
- Turn unused parkland back into native grassland and prairie reserve areas, which would require no maintenance or the burning of fossil fuels.
- Manage storm runoff from County facilities and place recycling containers in all parks.
- Examine the potential use of "gray water" where treated water may not be needed.
- Require that all county supported construction projects meet Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) standards by 2008.
- Examine the use of renewable energy sources such as wind and solar energy to power County buildings.

“We have an opportunity to improve the efficiency of our operations, save the taxpayers money and stimulate the local economy by partnering with businesses for supplies and services,” Dimitrijevic said.

Milwaukee County’s “Green Print” is co-sponsored by County Supervisors James G. White, Chairman of the County Board’s Transportation, Public Works, and Transit Committee, Gerry Broderick, Roger Quindel, and Willie Johnson, Jr.

“Rising energy costs currently straining the County’s budget can easily be lowered through these conservation efforts. It truly is a win-win, with fiscal and environmental benefits,” Dimitrijevic added. “I’m committed to becoming a better environmental steward. My major goal is to create a new conservation ethic, which costs nothing and brings huge results to the community.”

Dimitrijevic was joined at today’s news conference by Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lee Holloway, We Energies, The Sierra Club, Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful, and the Good Jobs and Livable Neighborhoods Coalition.

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